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ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE - CLINICAL RESEARCH

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A PRE-TEST AND POST-TEST CLINICAL STUDY DESIGN TO EVALUATE ARDHAMATRIKA NIROOHA BASTI AND NIMBAMRUTHADI ERANDA VIRECHANA IN HYPERURICEMIA W.S.R. TO VATARAKTHA PRASHANTH A.S.^{1*}

Abstract

Background: Vatarakta is caused by vitiated rakta and vata in an Avarana samprapti. The Nidana, Lakshana and Samprapthi of Vatarakta are having similarity with clinical presentation of Hyperuricemia / Gout explained in the modern medical science which is characterized by painful swelling of the joints and tenderness, redness in the affected areas. Gout pains are usually developed in the joints of the legs, especially the big toe. Apart from the big toe, other joints like ankle, toe heels, hand, wrist and elbows can also be affected. Purine is one of the nitrogen bases in the human body which is converted into uric acid & is eliminated through urination. The excessive deposit of uric acid in the body due to improper metabolism or reduced renal function will lead to gouty arthritis. Methods: Study was conducted on 40 subjects of Vatarakta, taken into two groups A and B, with 20 subjects in each group. Both groups received Amapachana with Hareetakyadi churna. Group A received Ardhamatrika Basti in Kala Basti Schedule. Group B received Snehapana with Panchatiktaguggulu ghruta and virechana with Nimbamruthadi eranda. In both groups Abhyanga is done with Bala-guduchyadi taila. After Shodhana, Amrutha Guggulu and Kokilaksha kashaya is given as shamanoushadhi. Results: The clinical study showed significant improvement in the signs & symptoms of Vatarakta, thereby improving the quality of life of the patients. Basti provided highly significant results in all symptoms and serum Uric acid. Virechana provided highly significant results in all symptoms whereas, in serum uric acid levels virechana showed not so significant results. Conclusion: After systematic and prompt clinical trial, the following conclusions were drawn taking into consideration observations & Results. As vataraktha / Hyperuricemia being a metabolic disorder; through proper Ayurvedic treatment principles, we can manage the condition very effectively, through sodhana and shaman chikitsa.

Keywords: Vatarakta, Gouty arthritis, Basti, Virechana, Uric acid

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INTRODUCTION:

Avurveda, a system of natural healing from the very ancient vedic culture of India is more than merely a system of treating illness but is the science of life that provides a body of wisdom, guidelines on ideal routines, diet and behaviour. Derangement of function within the body may occur due to multiple causes like diet, life style or environment. The word Vatarakta is made up of two words Vata and Rakta this shows the uniqueness in Vatarakta as compare to other vatavyadhis. It signifies the association of vata dosh with vitiated rakta dhatu. In Vatarkta Vata dosha and Rakta vitiated Dhatu are simultaneously.^[1,2,3,4,5] Vatarakta is caused by vitiated rakta and vata in an Avarana samprapti. The Nidana, Lakshana and Samprapthi of Vatarakta are having similarity with clinical presentation of Hyperuricemia / Gout explained in the modern medical science which is characterized by painful swelling of the joints and tenderness, redness in the affected areas. Gout pains are usually developed in the joints of the legs, especially the big toe. Apart from the big toe, other joints like ankle, toe heels, hand, wrist and elbows can also be affected.^[6] Purine is one of the nitrogen bases in the human body which is converted into uric acid & is eliminated through urination. The excessive deposit of uric acid in the body due to improper metabolism or reduced renal function will lead to gouty arthritis. The enzyme Xanthine Oxide is responsible for converting the purine into uric acid, which eliminated through urination. The excessive deposit of uric acid in the body due to improper metabolism or reduced renal function will lead to Gouty Arthritis. Intakes of more purine rich food, obesity, drugs for hypertension, intake of alcohol, family history are some of the reasons for improper metabolism.^[7] In the present era due to rapid modernization in the developing countries like India makes the culture of fast food, sedentary changes in life style etc. has given rise to increase in the number of joint disorders. Among the joint disorders Vatarakta / Gouty Arthritis considered to be serious of its chronicity. In the line of treatment of Gouty Arthritis. The treatment of Vatarakta is well explained in Ayurveda including Shodhana Chikitsa, Shamana Chikitsa, and Rasayana Prayoga. The Shodhana procedures like Basti, Raktamokshana, and Virechana are considered as most effective line of treatment. Among the Shodhana procedures Basti and Virechana is more emphasized by Acharyas. Vatarakta is one of the Madhyama Rogamarga the best treatment for Madhyama Rogamarga is Basti because it will mainly affect in Asthi, Sandhi, Snayu.^[8,9] In this study,

100 patients were selected randomly and placed into two groups, Group A and Group B, with 50 subjects in each group. Group-A received Amapachana with Hareetakyadi *Churna*^[10], *Kala Basti* with *Dasamoola Kashaya*, and Balaguduchyadi Taila^[11] (Anuvasana) and Balaquduchyadi Taila for Abhyanga with Mridu Swedana followed by Shamanaoushadhis - Amritadi guqqulu^[12] 1Tab bd with *Kokilakshadi Kashaya*^[13] (20 ml) bd as Anupana. Group-B received Amapachana with Hareetakyadi Churna, Snehapana with Panchatikta Guqqulu Ghrita^[14] and Virechana Nimbamritadi Eranda Taila^[15] with and Balaguduchyadi Taila for Abhyanga with Mridu Swedana followed by Shamanaoushadhis -Amrita Guggulu 1Tab bd with Kokilakshadi Kashayam (20 ml) bd as Anupana. The follow up period was 48 days for Group A and 30 days for Group B. The assessment was done before the treatment and soon after the completion of the course of the treatment thus the total assessment was done based on change in improvement observed, before and after the treatment.

In the present the culture of fast food, sedentary life style etc has given rise to increase in the number of serious chronic joint disorders like gouty arthritis. In the general population the prevalence of gouty arthritis is between 1.3 to 3.7 % and it is most common among men. The treatment of Vatarakta is well explained in Ayurveda including Shodhana, Shamana and Rasayana Chikitsa. Shodhana is considered as the best line of treatment for Vatarakta & among them Basti and virechana are considered as the main line of treatment.

OBJECTIVES:

- To evaluate and compare the efficacy of Ardhamatrika Basti and Virechana in Vatarakta.
- To assess the effect of Basti and Virechana along with Shamanoushadi on raised uric acid level in gouty arthritis.

METHODS AND MATERIALS

Study design: A Comparative Clinical Trial Study.

Methods:

Study was conducted on 40 subjects of Vatarakta, taken into two groups A and B, with 20 subjects in each group. Both groups received Amapachana with Hareetakyadi churna. Group A received Ardhamatrika Basti in Kala Basti Schedule. Group B received Snehapana with Panchatiktaguggulu ghruta and virechana with Nimbamruthadi eranda. In both groups Abhyanga is done with Balaguduchyadi taila. After Shodhana, Amrutha Guggulu and Kokilaksha kashaya is given as shamanoushadhi.

Clinical symptoms like Sandhi Graha (Stiffness of Joint), Sandhi Shoola (Joint Pain), Shotha (Inflammation), Vaivarnyata(discoloration), Sparsha Asahatva (Tenderness) and Serum Uric acid assessment were carried out before and after treatment and results are obtained.

Inclusion Criteria:

- Subjects presenting with clinical features of *Vatarakta*/ Gouty Arthritis.
- Subjects with chronicity of disease more than 6 months and less than 5 yrs.
- Subjects of either sex between age group of 20-70 yrs.
- 4. Subjects fit for *Basti Karma* and *Virechana Karma*.
- Subject showing the uric acid level above 6mg/dl (Above Biological Range).

Exclusion Criteria

- Subjects with uncontrolled diabetes, systemic disorders and endocrine disorders.
- Subjects with autoimmune disease of joints.
- Subjects with infection and communicable diseases.
- Subjects not fit for Basti Karma and Virechana Karma.

Parameters of the Study Subjective

Parameters

- Sandhi Graha (Stiffness of Joint)
- Sandhi Shoola (Joint Pain)
- *Shotha* (Inflammation)

Objective Parameters

- Serum Uric acid before and after treatment.
- Vaivarnya (Colour of Affected Joint).
- Sparsha Asahatva (Tenderness).
- McGill pain scale for pain assessment

Table 1: Grading of Objective parameters

Vaivarnya (Discolouration)	No discolouration	0
	Occasional, relieved by its own.	1
	Present, but relieved by relief in swelling	2
	Persistent, not relieved by medication	3
Sparsha asahatva (tenderness)	no tenderness	0
	patient complains of pain	1
	patient complains of pain and winces	2
	patient complains of pain, winces and	3
	withdrew joint	

Table 2: Grading of Subjective parameters

Parameter	Finding	Points
Sandhi Shula (pain)	None	0
	Mild	1
	Moderate	2
	Severe	3
	Extreme	4
andhi Graha (Stiffness)	No stiffness	0
	Stiffness occasional, relieved by its own	1
	Stiffness relieved by movements	2
	Stiffness relieved by medication	3
Shotha (swelling)	None	0
	Slight	1
	Moderate	2
	bulging beyond joint margins	3

Table 3: Interventions in Both Groups

Group A :	Ardhamatrika Basti in Kala Basti Schedule							
AmaPachana	Hareetakyadi Choorna for AmaPachana till the appearance of Nirama lakshana.							
	Dose – 5gm twice a day with Ushnajala Anupana Before Food.							
Sthanika Abhyanga and	Balaguduchyadi Taila							
Bashpa Swedana								
Anuvasana Basti:	Balaguduchyadi Taila – 60ml							
Ardhamatrika Nirooha	Dasamoola Kashayam 500ml							
Basti:	Sneha- Balaguduchyadi taila-60ml							
	Kalka-shatahva-15gms							
	Lavanam- saindhava lavana-5gms							
	Makshikam-30ml							
	Dosage: Depend upon the Roga and Rogi Bala							
	Duration : 16 Days							
	Pariharakala : 32 Days							
Shamanoushadi	Amrita guggulu (500mg) 1tab bd with Kokilaksha Kashaya 20ml bid as Anupana.							
	Follow up : 48 Days							
Group B	Virechana with Nimbamritadi Eranda Taila							
AmaPachana	Hareetakyadi Choorna for Ama Pachana till the appearance of Nirama Lakshana.							
	Dose – 5gm twice a day with Ushnajala Anupana Before Food.							

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Snehapana:	PANCHATIKTA GUGGULU GHRITA.
	HrasiyasiMatra of Sneha i.e. 30ml
	In increasing dosage till Samyak Snigdha Lakshanas seen upto 7 days
	Mridu koshta-120ml Madhyama
	koshta -180ml Krura koshta -240ml
	Anupana- Ushnodhaka
	Kala - Ananna Kala
Abhyanga and Bashpa	Balaguduchyadi taila
swedana	
Virechana	Nimbamritadi Eranda Taila
	Dose – according to Koshtha of the patient
	Mridu koshta -30ml Madhyama
	<i>koshta -</i> 45ml <i>Krura koshta -</i> 60ml
Samsarjana karma:	Samsarjana Karma was followed based on Shuddhi
Shamanoushadi	Amrita guggulu (500mg) 1tab bd with Kokilaksha Kashaya 20ml bid as
	Anupana.
	Follow up : 30 Days

OBSERVATIONS

Out of 100 subjects studied in this series all the sub- jects *i.e.* 100 subjects were reported with *Sandhishoola, Sandhishotha,* 93 subjects were report- ed with *Sparshaasahatva,* 86 subjects were reported with *Sandhigraha* and 77 subjects were reported with *Vaivarnyatha*. And maximum of 33 subjects were having S. Uric Acid between 7.1 to 9 mg/dl, 20 subjects were having S. Uric Acid between 9.1 to 10 mg/dl. 08 subjects were having S. Uric Acid between 10.1 to 11 mg/dl and 06 subjects were having S. Uric Acid between 06.1 to 07 mg/dl.

Table 4: Serum uric acid level of 100 subjects of vatarakta

S. Uric Acid	Group A	Group B	Total	%
6.1 to 7	04	02	06	06 %
7.1 to 8	17	16	33	33 %
8.1 to 9	15	18	33	33 %
9.1 to 10	12	08	20	20 %
10.1 to 11	02	06	08	08 %

Table 5: Symptoms (lakshana) wise distribution of 100 subjects of vatarakta

Cardinal	Group A	Group B	Total	%
Symptoms				
Sandhishoola	50	50	100	100
Sandhishotha	50	50	100	100
Sandhigraha	40	46	86	86
Sparshasahatva	45	48	93	93
Vaivarnata	37	40	77	77

Table 6: distributions according to the affected joints of 100 subjects of vatarakta

Joints	Group A	Group B	Total	%
Hasta parva Sandhi (Interphalangeal) (Hand)	18	16	34	34
HastaSamudgaSandhi (Metacarpophalangeal)	12	10	22	22
Manibandha(Wrist)	15	18	33	33
Koorpara(Elbow)	10	12	22	22
Pada parva Sandhi (Interphalangeal) (feet)	20	19	39	39
Pada Samudga Sandhi (Metatarsophalangeal)	15	16	31	31
Gulpha(Ankle)	19	21	40	40
Janu(Knee)	26	23	49	49

RESULTS:

The clinical study showed significant improvement in the signs & symptoms of Vatarakta, thereby improving the quality of life of the patients. Basti provided highly significant results in all symptoms and serum Uric acid. Virechana provided highly significant results in all symptoms whereas, in serum uric acid levels virechana showed not so significant results.

$Table \ 7: \ effect \ of \ therapy \ on \ subjective \ parameters \ in \ Group \ A$

Parameter	No. Of Patients	M	Mean		% relief	S.D.	S.E.	't' value	ʻp' value	Remarks
		BT	AT	Diff						
Sandhi Graha	50	2.64	0.66	1.98	75%	0.616	0.087	22.73	<0.001	S
Sandhi Shoola	50	2.22	0.32	1.9	85.58%	0.670	0.094	20.04	<0.001	S
Sandhi shotha	50	0.6	0.16	0.44	73.33%	0.803	0.113	3.869	<0.001	S

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Table 8: effect of therapy on objective parameters in Group A

Parameter	No. Of Patients	Mean		Mean Diff	% relief	S.D.	S.E.	't' value	'p'value	Remarks
		BT	AT							
Serum Uric acid	50	8.516	4.854	3.662	43%	1.0351	0.146	25.01	<0.001	S
AffectedJoint Colour	50	1.18	0.16	1.02	86.44%	0.836	0.118	8.622	<0.001	S
<i>Sparsha Asahatva</i> (Tenderness).	50	1.82	0.18	1.64	90.10%	0.741	0.104	15.63	<0.001	S
MC GILL PAIN SCALE	50	3.21	0.92	2.2	71.34%	0.721	0.101	21.58	<0.001	S

Table 9: effect of therapy on objective parameters in Group B

Parameter	No. Of Patients	M	Mean		% relief	S.D.	S.E.	't' value	'p'value	Remarks
		ВΤ	AT	Diff						
Sandhi Graha	50	2.16	0.98	1.18	54.62%	0.589	0.083	14.21	<0.001	S
Sandhi Shoola	50	1.96	1	0.96	48.97%	0.527	0.074	12.86	<0.001	S
Sandhi Shotha	50	0.86	0.24	0.62	72.09%	0.718	0.101	6.12	<0.001	S

Table 10: effect of therapy on objective parameters in Group B

Parameter	No Of Pa-	Mean		Mean%		S.D.	S.E.	't' val-	'p'value	Remarks
	tients	BT	AT	Diff	Relief			ue		
Serum Uric acid	50	8.74	5.87	2.86	32.83%	1.017	0.143	19.87	<0.001	S
Affected Joint Colour	50	1.28	0.42	0.86	67.18%	0.632	0.089	9.60	<0.001	S
Sparsha Asahatva (Ten-	50	1.58	0.44	1.14	72.15%	0.721	0.102	11.17	<0.001	S
derness).										
MC GILL PAIN SCALE	50	2.82	1.38	1.44	51.06%	0.875	0.123	11.63	<0.001	S

Table 11: comparative efficacy of therapies on objective and Subjective parameters in

Group A and Group B using unpaired student's 'T' test

			Group	Group A			Group B			Unpaire	Re-	
Assessment Paramete	ers	No. Of								(Group	mark	
		Patients	Mean	S.D.		S.E.	Mean	S.D.	S.E.	't'	'p' value	s
				(+/-)	(+/-)		(+/-)	(+/-)	value		
Serum Uric acid		50	3.66	1.03	3	0.14	2.86	1.01	0.14	3.85	<0.05	S
Affected Joint Colour		50	0.86	0.63	3	0.08	1.02	0.83	0.11	1.07	>0.05	NS
Sparsha Asahatva (Te	nderness).	50	1.14	0.72	2	0.10	1.64	0.74	0.10	3.38	<0.05	S
		Gro	oup A	oup A		Grou	ир В		Unpaired t Te		st	•
Assessment	No. Of								(Group A vs Gro		roupB)	Rema

Parameters	Patients	Mean	S.D.	S.E.	Mean	S.D.	S.E.	't' value	'p'value	rks
			(+/-)	(+/-)		(+/-)	(+/-)			
Sandhi Graha	50	1.18	0.58	0.08	1.98	0.61	0.08	6.57	<0.05	S
SandhiShoola	50	0.96	0.52	0.07	1.9	0.67	0.09	7.71	<0.05	S
SandhiShotha	50	0.62	0.71	0.10	0.44	0.80	0.11	1.17	>0.05	NS

Table 12: effect of study on both the groups

Remarks	Group A	Group B	Total	Percentag	
				e	
Marked relief Above 75 %	3	0	3	03%	
Moderate relief 50-75%	43	15	58	58%	
Mild relief 25%-50%	4	34	38	38%	
No relief Below 25%	0	1	1	01%	

DISCUSSION:

The subjects of Group A showed better results in all parameters compared to Group B. So *Basti* has a much contributory effect in *Vatarakta* / Gouty Arthritis even though *Virechana* also has a significant role in the disease *Vatarakta* / Gouty Arthritis.

Eventhough *Basti* being a *Shodhana Chikitsa* for *Vata Dosa* it will act on *Tridosha*, *Saptadhatus* and *Malas*. *Basti* is termed as *Ardha Chikitsa*. In *Vatarakta* almost all *Acharyas* explains about *Virechana* or *Raktamoksha* as the primary line of treatment as *rakta* being the *Avaraka* here and *Virechana* is the ideal treatment for *Rakta Dushti*. But if we consider the later stages of *Vatarakta* the predominant *Dosa* is *Vata* than Rakta. So Basti will be more effective in Vatarakta when it is in a chronic stage. Here Dasamoola Sidha Arthamatrika Basti will act as both Vedanasthapaka and Shodhahara thus reduce the symptoms of Vatarakta.

CONCLUSION:

After systematic and scientific trial, the following conclusions had been drawn taking into consideration observations & Results. In present study as per the clinical data, *Basti* and *Virechana* are definitely effective in the management of *Vatarakta*, but by assessing the percentage wise improvement *Basti* shows more effective than *Virechana*.

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